

CLAIMS

1. An electronic device, comprising:

audio output means for alerting a user by playing a musical audible alert; and

5 control means for controlling the audio output means to terminate the musical audible alert, wherein the audio output means is operable to terminate the musical audible alert by introducing a replacement musical sequence.

2. An electronic device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a user input, 10 wherein the control means is operable, responsive to the user input, to control the audio output means to terminate the musical audible alert.

3. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the audio means comprises a synthesizer.

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4. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 3, wherein the synthesizer processes a data stream representative of the musical audible alert in real time.

20 5. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 4, wherein audio output means is arranged to vary the data stream in real time to introduce the replacement musical sequence.

25 6. A mobile telephone as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 5, wherein the synthesizer is polyphonic.

7. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a memory storing a file for producing the musical audible alert.

30 8. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 7, wherein the file comprises a series of conditional branch markers, each marker indicating a time for a conditional branch to a replacement musical sequence.

9. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim further comprising radio transceiver means operable for downloading the replacement sequence.

10. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the
5 replacement sequence is of limited duration and concludes the musical audible alert.

11. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the replacement musical sequence is pre-determined.

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12. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 11, wherein the replacement musical sequence is stored in a MIDI-track of a MIDI-file.

13. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the audio
15 output means is operable to terminate the musical audible alert by introducing any one of a plurality of pre-determined replacement musical sequences.

14. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of pre-determined replacement musical sequences is associated with a
20 particular portion of the musical audible alert.

15. A mobile telephone as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the replacement musical sequence is automatically generated.

25 16. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 15, wherein the generated replacement musical sequence is dependent upon information characterizing the musical qualities of the audible alert.

30 17. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the replacement musical sequence varies any one or more of: the arrangement of the musical audible alert; the music of the musical audible alert; the tempo of the musical audible alert; and the volume of the musical audible alert.

18. A mobile telephone as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the replacement musical sequence fades out the musical audible alert.

5 19. An electronic device as claimed in any preceding claim operable as a mobile telephone.

20. A mobile telephone, comprising:

audio output means for alerting a user to an incoming call by playing a musical audible alert;

10 a user input for answering an incoming call; and control means, responsive to the user input, for controlling the audio output means to terminate the musical audible alert, wherein the audio output means is operable to terminate the musical audible alert by introducing a replacement musical sequence.

15 21. A mobile telephone as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a radio transceiver wherein the control means, responsive to the user input, controls the radio transceiver, after a delay, to accept the incoming telephone call.

20 22. A data file comprising a replacement sequence for an electronic device musical audible alert.

25 23. A data file as claimed in claim 22; further comprising additional replacement sequences.

24. A data file as claimed in claim 22 or 23, further comprising a musical audible alert for an electronic device.

30 25. A data file as claimed in claim 24; further comprising a plurality of conditional branching markers each of which is associated with a replacement musical sequence.

26. A musical data file, for producing a musical audible alert in an electronic device, comprising a plurality of conditional branching markers each of which is associated with a replacement musical sequence.

5 27. A data file as claimed in any one of claims 22 to 26, embodied on a record medium or stored in a memory.

28. A system, for providing replacement sequences for electronic device musical audible alerts, comprising:

10 a memory storing a plurality of data files each of which comprises a replacement musical sequence for an electronic device musical audible alert; and

a server, for downloading a data file from the memory to the mobile telephone, responsive to a request.

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29. A system, for providing replacement sequences for mobile telephone musical audible alerts, comprising:

a memory storing a plurality of musical data files for playing a musical alert, each comprising a plurality of conditional branching markers wherein each of

20 the conditional branching markers is associated with a replacement musical sequence for a mobile telephone musical audible alert; and

a server, for downloading a data file from the memory to the mobile telephone, responsive to a request.

25 30. A method of terminating a musical audible alert in an electronic device comprising the step of:

replacing an original musical audible alert with a replacement musical sequence.

30 31. A method of answering an incoming call in a mobile telephone, comprising the steps of:

detecting that the mobile telephone has an incoming call;

starting a musical audible alert;

detecting a user input answering the call; and

terminating the audible alert by introducing a replacement musical sequence.

32. An electronic device, mobile telephone, data file, system or method substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and/or as shown in
5 the accompanying drawings.

33. Any novel subject matter or combination including novel subject matter disclosed, whether or not within the scope of or relating to the same invention as the preceding claims.

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